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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

USTelecom, the trade association which represents some of the nations largest incumbent carriers (such as AT&T, Verizon, and others) has petitioned the FCC to dismantle key components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

Within their petition they claimed:

"In the residential marketplace, competition will not be materially affected by forbearance from Section 251(c)(3) because there is effectively no remaining UNE-based competition in that marketplace." - USTelecom

Contrary to USTelecom's claims, residential consumers like me WILL be affected, because my carrier (Sonic) uses unbundled copper and inter-city fiber transport elements (UNEs) to compete in the residential marketplace.

Many others disagree with USTelecom on this key point.

Residential subscribers like me do exist, I would be "materially affected". In fact, those effects would be profound; without access to UNE services, Sonic wouldnt be able to connect consumers while we build our fiber networks, nor fund the construction of our fiber networks. And once fiber networks are built, UNEs are still used they connect from city to city and are the key backhaul for all of our fiber networks.

Please say NO to USTelecom's petition to dismantle components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. The government exists to encourage competition and stand up for the little guy, not grease the wheels for the corporate gravy train.

Michael Waddell